

Remarks

In view of the above amendments and discussion to follow, reconsideration of the subject application is requested. Claims 1-4, 6-9, and 11-18 remain in the application.

Independent Claim 1 has been amended to include subject matter formerly found in Claim 5. Independent Claim 9 has been amended to include subject matter formerly found in dependent Claim 10. Claims 6 and 11 have also been amended to change their dependencies. No new subject matter has been added.

Summary of the Invention

Applicant's invention relates to power equipment useful in the commercial, residential, and recreational industries. The equipment is based on a singular motor which is used with any one of multiple different host implements. Each of the host implements has a dedicated working piece which performs a particular work task. The purpose of the invention is to eliminate the need for several different pieces of equipment, each with its own motor and consequent expense and storage problems.

Important to Applicant's invention is the provision of a first self-locating and locking coupler on the host implement and a second self-locating and locking coupler on the demountable motor. The two couplers are configured to mechanically mate with one another. This allows the demountable motor to be coupled to one of several different host implements, provided that host implement also has the mechanically mating coupler. Claims in the invention all require components necessary to achieving the desired objective.

Rejections - Claims 1, 2, and 9

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1 and 9 under 35 USC 102 and Claim 2 under 35 USC 103(a). Both rejections are based on the disclosure to Smithburn. Any perceived overlap between Applicant's claimed invention and the disclosure of Smithburn has been obviated by the above amendments.

In particular, the Examiner has indicated that allowable subject matter is contained in Applicant's Claims 3-8 and 10-16. The subject matter of Claim 5 has been included in Claim 1. The subject matter of Claim 10 has been included in Claim 9.

Accordingly, Claims 1 and 9 now contain subject matter which the Examiner has indicated to be allowable.

Claims 17 and 18

The Examiner has allowed Claims 17 and 18 as originally submitted. Acknowledgement is made of this allowance.

Prior Art of Record

References to Thomas, Lenczuk, and Ohta et al. have been cited as being of interest. The references are noted. Suffice it to say, Applicant's claimed invention is novel and unobvious over all known prior art.

Conclusions

All claims currently in the application have either been previously allowed or contained subject matter which the Examiner has indicated as being allowable. It is submitted the application is in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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